

Send written comments to Diann L. Campbell, Meeting Coordinator, Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53705-2398.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diann Campbell, telephone: (608) 231-9244.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Service conducts major research in the area of wood utilization at its Forest Experiment Stations and in Madison at the Forest Products Laboratory. Current research programs focus on: Wood properties, engineering, and improved design procedures; softwood and hardwood lumber; construction technologies; wood drying, processing, preservation, and finishing; adhesives; composites and panels. Forest Service scientists will provide presentations on research at the forefront of wood manufacturing and utilization technology. Members of the American Forest & Paper Association, Committee on Research and Evaluation (AF&PA-CORE) will chair panel discussions on nine selected topics related to wood utilization.

Dated: February 17, 1995.

Kenneth R. Peterson,
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 95-4573 Filed 2-23-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Changes in Hydric Soils of the United States

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of change.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 7 CFR 12.30(a)(4), Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service), United States Department of Agriculture gives notice of a change in the wording of the criteria used to generate the list of hydric soils of the United States as published in the third edition of Hydric Soils of the United States, Miscellaneous Publication 1491, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, June 1991.

For further information contact: Craig A. Ditzler, Chair, National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils, National Soil Survey Center, NRCS, Room 152, Mail Stop 33, Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3866, Telephone (402) 437-5353.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The list of hydric soils was created by computer

using criteria that were developed by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils. The criteria are selected soil properties that are documented in Soil Taxonomy and were designed primarily to generate a list of hydric soils from the national database of Soil Interpretations Records. Criteria 1, 3, and 4 serve as both database criteria and as indicators for identification of hydric soils. Criterion 2 serves only to retrieve soils from the database.

The wording of criterion 2 has been changed to incorporate recent changes in Soil Taxonomy and delete references to water-table frequency and duration. Until all soils have been reclassified, the computer program will continue to select soils under their former classification. The water-table frequency and duration data are not contained on the Soil Interpretations Records and, therefore, were not selection criteria.

The wording of criterion 2 also has been changed to clarify the way in which water-table data were used to select soils from the Soil Interpretations Records database. Because the water-table depths on the Soil Interpretations Records are entered in 0.5 ft. increments, previous versions of criterion 2 used water tables at less than 0.5, 1.0, and 1.5 ft. in order to extract hydric soils from the database with actual recorded water tables of 0.0, 0.5, and 1.0 ft.

It is important to note that these changes do not cause any soils to be added or deleted from the list.

Criteria for Hydric Soils

1. All Histosols except Folists, or
2. Soils in Aquic suborders, great groups, or subgroups, Albolls suborder, Aquisalids, Pachic subgroups, or Cumulic subgroups that are:
 - a. somewhat poorly drained with a water table equal to 0.0 foot (ft) from the surface during the growing season, or
 - b. poorly drained or very poorly drained and have either:
 - (1) water table equal to 0.0 ft. during the growing season if textures are coarse sand, sand, or fine sand in all layers within 20 inches (in), or for other soils, or
 - (2) water table at less than or equal to 0.5 ft. from the surface during the growing season if permeability is equal to or greater than 6.0 in/hour (h) in all layers within 20 in, or
 - (3) water table at less than or equal to 1.0 ft. from the surface during the growing season, if permeability is less than 6.0 in/h in any layer within 20 in, or
3. Soils that are frequently ponded for long duration or very long duration during the growing season, or

4. Soils that are frequently flooded for long duration or very long duration during the growing season.

Dated: January 26, 1995.

Richard W. Arnold,

Director, Soils Division.

[FR Doc. 95-4604 Filed 2-23-95; 8:45 am]

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Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service

Inviting Applications for Rural Technology Development Grants

AGENCY: Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service (RBCDS) announces the availability of approximately \$1.75 million in competing Rural Technology Development Grant (RTDG) funds for fiscal year (FY) 1995. The intended effect of this notice is to solicit applications for FY 1995, notify applicants of RBCD's objectives for FY 1995, and award grants before May 25, 1995. The purpose of the grant program is to establish and operate centers for rural technology or cooperative development.

DATES: The deadlines for receipt of a preapplication is April 10, 1995. Preapplication received after the date will not be considered for FY 1995 funding.

ADDRESSES: Entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact Rural Economic and Community Development (RECD) State Offices to receive further information and copies of the preapplication package. The program will be operated by RECD at the State level.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Barton, Loan Specialist, Community Facilities Division, Room 6304, South Agriculture Building, 14th and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0700, Telephone: (202) 720-1504.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Refer to 7 CFR part 4284-F, published in the **Federal Register** on August 12, 1994 (59 FR 41429) for the information collection requirements of the RTDG program. The RTDG program was previously administered by the former Rural Development Administration. Under the reorganization of the Department of Agriculture, the responsibility for administering this program was transferred to RBCDS. Part 4284-F of title 7 of the Code of Federal

Regulations provides details on what information must be contained in the preapplication package.

The RTDG program is authorized by section 310B(f) through (h) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932). The primary objective of the program is to improve the economic condition of rural areas. The RTDG program will achieve this objective by supporting the creation or enhancement of institutions capable of promoting the development and commercialization of new services, products, processes, and enterprises. RBCDS encourages applications for projects that emphasize the creation of local capacity to promote economic development that is sustainable over the long term through local effort. The economic development should lead to improvements in the quality as well as the quantity of economic activity in the community and should be based on the application of new and existing technologies. Grants may be used to pay up to 75 percent of the cost of the project and administrative costs; the applicant must contribute at least 25 percent.

RTDG grants are competitive and will be awarded to nonprofit institutions and public bodies based on specific selection criteria, as required by legislation and set forth in 7 CFR part 4284-F. Project selection will be given to those projects that contribute the most to the improvement of economic conditions in rural areas.

Preference will be given to those projects that will create industries or agribusinesses where few exist, increase employment where unemployment is high, stem the flow of out migration of people, businesses and industries, and increase the level of per capita income where such income is low. Applicants must provide data to support these criteria. The information submitted should provide an accurate picture of the economic conditions of the rural areas to be served. The Agency will use the information provided to select the best projects for funding. Part 4284 of title 7 to the Code of Federal Regulations contains general information on the selection criteria.

As consistent with the regulatory selection procedures, RBCDS desires to fund projects from FY 1995 funds that promote one or more of the following policies:

1. Projects that assist rural communities and businesses that are experiencing erosion in their economic base. A critical need exists for actions leading to long-term enhancements in the ability of communities and businesses to adjust to changed

conditions in a smooth manner and to achieve, over the long term, improvements in the quality of community life and the competitiveness and profitability of businesses.

The proposed activity should result in economic activity that is sustainable by the community over the long term through local actions (without the need for continued subsidies by governments or nongovernmental organizations). The project should lead to improvements in the quality of economic activity within the community, as evidenced by employment leading to higher wages, improved benefits, greater career potential, and the use of higher levels of skills than currently are typical within the local economy.

2. Projects that assist rural communities that have remained persistently poor. A critical need exists for actions to develop and implement broad strategies to create new sources of economic activity in these communities, and to promote development of human resources within the community, including organizational development, entrepreneurship, and workforce training.

3. Projects that assist rural communities and businesses in areas that have experienced long-term population decline and job deterioration. A critical need exists for the broadened application of new technologies to develop business opportunities in remote rural locations. This can be accomplished, for example, by creating new products or services that are related to the traditional industrial base or that use locally-available natural resources, or by developing new methods of conducting business from remote locations through the applications of telecommunications technology or other business methods.

RBCDS encourages applications for projects that have the following characteristics:

1. The proposed use of funds should have a catalytic impact on the local economy by providing support for a critical element of a larger program of economic development by leveraging major additional investments from other contributors, or by enhancing the quality of the design of the project or the capacity of the community to implement it successfully.

2. The proposed project should use exemplary methods or practices of rural community and economic development that have potential applicability in a wide range of areas.

3. The proposed activity should be consistent with local and areawide strategic plans for community and economic development and be a part of

a broader program of community development activity that involves partnerships with other local organizations and other organizations providing support to the community. It must be jointly assisted by resources from other local, State, Federal or private resources.

4. The proposed activity should be representative of and serve a diverse population of economic and social groups within the community, and the planning and project development should involve active participation by a diverse range of community residents.

1995 Application Submission

Due to the short application period for FY 1995 funds, qualified applicants should begin the preapplication process as soon as possible. Preapplications must include a clear statement of the goal(s) and objective(s) of the project and a plan which describes the proposed project as required by the statute and 7 CFR part 4284-F. Each application received in the State Office will be reviewed for eligibility.

All eligible applications will be referred to the National Office for scoring and selection for award. The State Director or his/her designee will provide comments on each application forwarded to the National Office documenting whether the proposal promotes any of the policies set forth in this issuance. Any other comments helpful to the National Office's review are also welcome. The National Office will provide funds for projects based on the grant selection criteria set forth in 7 CFR part 4284-F and the availability of funds. Grants will be selected for award by May 25, 1995. No grants may be awarded after July 13, 1995 under the authority of 7 CFR part 4284-F. Successful applicants will be notified by the RECD State Office or the RBCDS National Office.

Dated: February 15, 1995.

Dayton J. Watkins,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service.

[FR Doc. 95-4497 Filed 2-23-95; 8:45 am]

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COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the California Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the California Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene on Friday, March 17, 1995, at 10:00 a.m. and